

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12377 291827Z

14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 SCS-03 DHA-02 SCA-01 VO-03 (ISO)W

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R 291614Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3934

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 12377

PASS TO H

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJ: ACCOUNT OF LEV ROYTBURD'S TRIAL IN ODESSA

REF: STATE 197582

1. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED FROM WESTERN NEWSMAN COPY OF ACCOUNT OF ODESSA TRIAL OF LEV ROYTBURG. ROYTBURG WAS ARRESTED AUGUST 2 AT ODESSA AIRPORT ENROUTE TO MOSCOW FOR DESIRED MEETING WITH CODELHUMPHREY/SCOTT. TRIAL OPENED AUGUST 22 IN RED CORNER (AGITPROP PREMISES) OF ODESSA AIRPORT TERMINAL. ACCORDING TO ACCOUNT, TRIAL WAS PRECEDED BY LECTURE ON EVILS OF INTERNATIONAL ZIONISM, AND AUDIENCE WAS NOT PERMITTED LEAVE HALL AFTER LECTURE. BY THIS TACTIC, SEATS WERE DENIED TO CROWD OF ROYTBURG'S FRIENDS. HOWEVER, TWO OF ROYTBURG'S FRIENDS WHO CAME EARLY AND ATTENDED LECTURE REMAINED FOR THE TRIAL, AND ROYTBURG'S MOTHER AND ONE RELATIVE WERE ADMITTED.

2. TRIAL WAS HELD IN THE ABSENCE OF THE INJURED PARTY AND SOME OF THE WITNESSES. JUDGING FROM ROYTBURG'S TESTIMONY, SOME OF ABSENT WITNESSES WERE KGB OFFICERS KNOWN TO HIM FROM EARLIER INTERROGATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH HIS SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS FOR EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL. TESTIMONY OF WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION APPEARS FLAWED, ACCORDING TO ACCOUNT. ROYTBURG HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMED MOSCOW FRIENDS OF HIS PLANS TO FLY TO MOSCOW AND HAD WARNED THAT NONARRIVAL SIGNIFIED ARREST.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12377 291827Z

ROYTBURG HAD BEEN WARNED NOT TO LEAVE ODESSA AND HIS ARREST

AT THE AIRPORT WAS THUS EXPECTED.

3. ROYTBURD WAS CHARGED UNDER ARTICLE 188, PART II OF CRIMINAL CODE UKRAINAIAN SSR. ON AUGUST 25 THE COURT FOUND HIM GUILTY AND SENTENCED HIM TO TWO YEARS IN PRISON, ACCORDING TO WESTERN WIRE SERVICE.

4. EMBASSY IS POUCHING COPIES OF RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE TEXT TO DEPARTMENT IN VIEW OF CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN ROYTBURD CASE (REFTEL).  
STOESSEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MOSCOW12377  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750301-0375  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 197582  
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**Subject:** ACCOUNT OF LEV ROYTBURD'S TRIAL IN ODESSA  
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